

NATURAL GAS EXPLOSION CREMATES THREE CHILDREN

Singleton Children Burn To Death
in Flames That Destroy
Their Home.

FOUR OTHER HOUSES BURN

Horrible Affair at Heater's Station
Brings Appalling Grief and Dis-
tress to the Villagers.

[By Associated Press.]
WESTON, W. Va., Dec. 27.—Three children of Stanley Singleton, aged 13, 11 and 8 years respectively, were cremated in a fire at Heater's Station, a village one mile from Burnsville, Braxton county, last night.

After the Singleton family retired natural gas escaping from a defective valve caused an explosion.

The flames quickly spread to adjoining dwellings and four were destroyed.

The Singleton residence took fire immediately as soon as the explosion occurred, and the father and mother escaped, but with serious burns, that may prove fatal. Their desperate efforts to rescue the children were without avail, the little ones perishing in the flames as the house collapsed.

All Were Sleeping.
At the time of the explosion the members of the family were all sound asleep, and the shock so stunned them that they were confused, else the children might have been rescued or succeeded themselves in escaping the flames, from which they perished.

Excitement Intense.
The excitement attendant upon the spread of the flames was intense and it was with great difficulty they were subdued as the town is without water protection. Aid was summoned from Burnsville, but only the isolation of the houses in the village saved the place from total destruction.

Homeless Cared For.
The property loss is quite heavy to those whose homes were burned and there is much sympathy for the Singletons in their bereavement and affliction. The homeless because of the fire are being taken care of by neighbors and friends.

The houses were all owned by R. H. Smith & Company, of Parkersburg, who have a large lumber plant there. The loss will reach many thousands of dollars.

OIL ACTIVE AT WALLACE

Christmas passed off very quietly. The Orr's chapel, M. E. church, gave their Sunday school scholars a nice treat on Christmas eve. This Sunday school which is doing a noble work is progressing nicely under the supervision of Mr. F. J. Smith with a large enrollment of scholars.

There is considerable activity now in the oil field, there being several locations and some about ready to start to drilling. Last Thursday a well came in on the W. S. Harbert farm producing about 115 barrels daily.

The Knights of Pythias held their regular election in their castle hall on the evening of the 25th and the following officers were elected: Chancellor commander, Thomas F. Lambert.

Vice Chancellor, Thomas O. Kemper.

Prelate, Geo. W. Shrader.

Keeper of Records and Seals, F. H. Johnson.

Master of Finance, Robert L. Swiger.

Master of Exchequer, Al. T. Robinson.

Master of Work, W. D. Bates.

Master at Arms, W. R. Lambert.

Inside Guard, James C. Baker.

Outside Guard, Robert L. Christie.

This order is taking the lead of any order in town and they are conferring the degree work almost every night which is on each Tuesday night of each month.

ATTENDING MEETING OF

BAR ASSOCIATION.

The State Bar Association convened at Elkins in annual meeting today and concludes the meeting tomorrow. Among the members of the fraternity attending from Clarksburg are John Bassel, Millard F. Shider, Harvey W. Harmer, Harvey F. Smith and John W. Davis.

HANOR FOUND DEAD IN LAFAYETTE, IND.

Well Known Bartender and Saloon Man Is Taken Suddenly By Heart Failure.

Mr. Hanor Formerly Resided in Clarksburg, Being Employed at Arlington and Other Hotels

Erle Hall Hanor, proprietor of the saloon at 422 Main street, Lafayette, Ind., was found dead in the bath room at his home, 518 North Fifth street in that city at 12:45 o'clock Christmas morning by his wife.

Mr. Hanor had not been feeling well all day, but remained at his place of business until midnight, when he was feeling so bad that he called a carriage to take him to his home. After he entered the house, he went up stairs and was almost exhausted when he reached the second floor. He called his wife to the door of her sleeping apartment and asked her to take his coat as he intended to go to the bath room. He remained in the room long enough to arouse his wife's suspicion and she went to the bath room. The door was closed and she called to him. He did not answer and she opened the door. She found him sitting on a chair perfectly motionless. He was unable to talk and Mrs. Hanor immediately called Dr. Webster. When he arrived he found that Mr. Hanor was dead.

Mr. Hanor had been suffering with asthma for some time and his heart had been giving him some trouble. He was a very large man and was suffering from the effects of a severe cold Monday. It is believed that his sudden death was caused by heart trouble. Charles H. Powell, deputy coroner, was notified of Mr. Hanor's death and went to the residence to make an investigation.

Mr. Hanor was born in Hudson, N. Y., on January 2, 1861, and was reared in that city. He went to Clarksburg on July 4, 1906, from Lafayette, where he had been connected for some time with the Arlington hotel. Soon after he went to Lafayette he purchased the saloon at 422 Main street from Paul Metzger and remained in charge of it until his death. He was a man of genial disposition and made a great many friends during his short residence in that city. A widow alone survives and the sympathy of the community goes out to her in her sudden bereavement. The remains were taken to Washington, D. C., for interment.

WARRANT DISMISSED.

Sale of Church By Marple to Jackson Was According to Contract.

The warrant sworn out by Blaine G. Jackson against L. G. Marple before Justice G. H. Gordon, charging him with obtaining \$25.00 from him under false pretense, that of selling him a churn, said to be guaranteed to make three pounds of butter out of one pound of butter and a quart of milk, was dismissed in Justice Gordon's court Wednesday evening, after an examination, including many witnesses. The sale was according to contract was the conclusion of Justice Gordon.

Y. P. S. C. E.

On Friday night the Christian Endeavorers of the Baptist church will have for the topic of their prayer meeting, "Carey and Missions in India," and the scripture the text of Carey's famous sermon, Isaiah 54:2-3. Our own fellow Endeavorer and fellow townsman, Wheeler Boggess, is now laboring in this field, and this should make the topic doubly interesting to all. You are invited to attend the meeting from 7:15 to 8:00 o'clock on Friday night.

PIGOTT JAILED.

Henry Pigott, of Enterprise, was brought before Justice G. H. Gordon Wednesday evening, charged with stealing a street car the night of December 22. Constable G. A. Waldo made the arrest. Pigott waived examination and was jailed in default of bond of \$1,000 to await the action of the next grand jury.

YAQUI INDIANS ON WAR PATH

In State of Sonora, Mexico, and Have Killed Eight Americans and Mexicans.

[By Associated Press.]
LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 27.—Col. H. R. Maxson, vice president of the National Irrigation Congress who was spending the past few weeks in the State of Sonora, Mexico, arrived here yesterday and reported that the Yaqui Indians on the warpath and that they massacred eight Americans and Mexicans near Sancho on the Cananea, Yaqui River and Pacific railroad.

BAPTIST UNION TO HOLD MEETING

Will Close Business of the Present Year and Watch the New Year Come In.

The annual business meeting of the Baptist Young People's Union of the First Baptist church will be held Monday evening, Dec. 31, 1906, at eight o'clock. At this meeting reports of all committees will be received, and other items of business transacted, and plans laid for the work of the union for the coming year.

Immediately following the business session, at nine o'clock, there will be a social hour, during which refreshments will be served by the social committee. The meeting will close with an appropriate watch-night service conducted by the pastor.

The young people of the church and congregation, and any others who feel an interest in young people's work in general, are especially invited to be present at these services. The three services are separate and distinct, and you will be made welcome at any time, but the invitation includes all the services, and you will be sure to have an enjoyable time if you attend them all.

AERIE OF EAGLES

Will Be Instituted at Buckhannon By the Clarksburg Team.

Past Worthy President Joseph Cohen and the Clarksburg team of the Order of Eagles, will go to Buckhannon Saturday afternoon to institute a new aerie there that night. The new aerie will start off with sixty-one members. There will be a number of initiations and after the instituting ceremonies a banquet will be served. Any and all members of the order desiring to go may leave on the 4 o'clock train that afternoon and return home Sunday morning.

FUNERAL OF CHILD.

The funeral of the infant child of Joseph Bender, at Columbia mines, took place today from the home of its parents and burial was in the Masonic cemetery. The child was seven months old and died Wednesday.

HORSE FALLS IN MANHOLE.

A horse of one of Hornor-Gaylord's teams slipped and fell into a manhole near the postoffice Thursday morning. He got a left leg caught in it and it took several men to pry him out. He was injured some.

TRACTION MEN TRANSFERRED.

Motorman O. L. Flowers and Conductor M. M. Lyden and Motorman Oscar French and Conductor James Moran of the local traction lines will be transferred to the Interurban line between here and Fairmont.

TEN MILLIONS FACE STARVATION

In the Central Part of China and Worst Famine in Years Exists There.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 27.—Advices today received by the steamer Tosa Maru say China has decided to appeal to Europe and America for

relief for the famine sufferers in Central China, where ten million Chinese are faced with starvation.

The famine threatens to equal the appalling one of thirty years ago, which devastated the northern provinces of China and destroyed hundreds of thousands of people.

DRUG STORE IS ENTERED BY BURGLAR AT NIGHT

Bloodhounds Get Trail But Soon Lose It On Account of Falling Rain and Sleet. Big Quantity of Cocaine and Morphine Is Carried Away From Store As Booty.

The drug store of D. L. Grove, on West Pike street near the Union National bank was burglarized Wednesday night at a late hour. The exact hour of the burglary is not known, but was between 11:30 o'clock, the hour the store was closed, and 7 o'clock Thursday morning, when the store was opened for the business of the day.

Thurl Brooks, who has charge of the drug store during the absence of Mr. Grove closed the store at 1:30 o'clock Wednesday night, and Paul Weldenhamer, a clerk there, opened it Thursday morning, and discovered that burglary had been committed. The rear window was broken in, through which the burglar entered. The cash drawer, other drawers and receptacles were standing open and articles were missing. An investigation disclosed the fact that two bottles of cocaine, a half dozen bottles of morphine, and quite an amount of chemicals had been stolen, though no money was taken as what there was in the store was concealed in a drawer, that had been opened by the burglar.

The services of J. W. Schrader's bloodhounds at O'Neil were enlisted. Mr. Schrader arrived here at 10 o'clock with them and took them to the store. They immediately took up a trail in the rear of the store, going up Traders alley, around the fire department into the back door of the Imperial saloon, thence down the alley and across to the Oak and Manhattan, thence through to the rear of the Latstetter place, where they lost the scent and did not regain it.

On account of the rain that fell and the sleet that formed after the burglary the dogs were unable to successfully keep the trail, and, therefore, failed to run down the burglar.

Several persons were under suspicion all the day as the influences of coke were plainly and freely visible. As Mr. Brooks closed the store for the night, he was approached by a suspicious looking person, who requested him to reopen the store and sell him some cocaine. The request was refused. It is thought this may have been the one who broke into the store. He was short in stature, wore dark clothes and had on a crushed hat.

H. L. Harry, colored, was arrested in the afternoon, with a revolver, two boxes of coke and a box of cartridges. Squire Gordon fined him \$50.00 and sent him to jail for six months. He is suspected of the burglary. Schrader's dogs were taken to the jail and tried to get into his cell.

The fellow, it is stated, was seen in Traders alley about 1 o'clock Wednesday night.

TERROR STRICKEN ARE THE NEGROES

Gathering For the Purpose of Placing Themselves Under Protection of Troops.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 27.—Dispatches from towns in Kemper county, Miss., which were some of bloodshed on Christmas day, say that white men protected innocent negroes and that every effort is being made by the civil and military authorities to apprehend the white hoodlums, who are responsible for the killing of innocent negroes, who are not in sympathy with those connected with the outrages that led up to the trouble.

The total death list is probably twelve. It is said mob violence among the whites has mostly fled toward the Alabama state line, while negroes are in terror gathered at Scooba and Wahalak to place themselves under the protection of troops or citizens.

GOLDEN SEAL ELECTS OFFICERS

At Its Meeting Wednesday Night To Serve Throughout the Coming Year.

The Order of Golden Seal here elected officers Wednesday night as follows and will install them next Wednesday week:

Commander—M. J. Kyser.
Vice Commander—Mrs. R. H. Spahr.
Chaplain—Mrs. John Atcheson.
Secretary—E. M. Goodman.
Treasurer—Dr. W. A. Fletcher.
Trustees—W. Frank Stout, Frank H. Rhodes and Dr. McGuire.

FORMER RESIDENT DIES SUDDENLY

Edward Sullivan Falls on Ice Pavement in Ohio and Dies From Injuries Received.

Thaddeus M. Sullivan, of Mt. Clare, has received word of the sudden death of his brother, Edward Sullivan, at Summerville, Ohio, Christmas day. Mr. Sullivan fell on an icy pavement and received injuries that resulted in his demise shortly afterward. His age was 70 years. He formerly resided in this county but for a number of years he had lived at Summerville, Ohio, where he was vice-president of the Summerville bank. He leaves a wife and three sons and daughters.

EMPIRE DIRECTORS DECLARE DIVIDEND

And Places Handsome Sum To Undivided Profits Account at Annual Meeting.

The board of directors of the Empire National bank held its annual meeting in the banking rooms of the bank Wednesday and declared a semi-annual dividend of three percent, amounting to \$7,500. The board also placed \$7,500 to the surplus fund and carried \$3,000 to the undivided profits account. The earnings of the bank the past six months were over \$18,000. The progress of the bank during the year and its capable management were quite satisfactory to the board. Indeed, the various members of the board expressed themselves as well pleased with the growing patronage of the institution.

RUSSIAN CONSUL DEAD WITH BULLET IN HEAD.

[By Associated Press.]
LIVERPOOL, Eng., Dec. 27.—The Russian consul here, Col. Degelman, was found dead this morning with a pistol shot wound in his head. Whether he was murdered or committed suicide has not been determined.

PRINCESS BETROTHED.

[By Associated Press.]
BERLIN, Dec. 27.—Princess Alexandra Victoria of Schleswig Holstein Sonderburg Glucksburg has been betrothed to Prince Augustus William, Fourth, son of Emperor William.

TWIN CITIES FORM A BOND OF UNION

Christening of the Twins of Central West Virginia Is Done in Brilliant Manner.

VISITORS TOASTED AT WALDO

By the Party of Prominent Clarksburgers Who Visited Fairmont By Trolley.

The special car conveying about fifty prominent citizens over the new traction line to Fairmont Wednesday afternoon returned here at 5:30 o'clock, accompanied by another car, containing a large number of Fairmonters.

Upon the arrival of the party they proceeded to the Waldo hotel, where an elegant banquet in courses was served and a number of after-dinner speeches made in an informal way.

After a little over an hour's stay in the city the Fairmonters started on the return trip, which was made with safety as the road is already in fine condition and the cars glide over it with ease and smoothness.

Among the Fairmonters who made the trip to Clarksburg and return are:

J. M. Hartley, M. B. Bartlett, C. E. McCray, Sr., Lawrence McCray, Kemball White, A. S. Pritchard, J. C. Band, M. L. Hutchinson, Morgan Billingslea, H. C. Sample, Charles E. Mauley, Sam R. Nuzum, Smith Hood, M. C. Lough, E. M. Showalter, Geo. M. Alexander, Fred G. King, Fay Hartley, J. O. Watson, Jr., Edwin Robinson, J. L. Hall, J. M. Jacobs, M. D. Christie, Earl H. Smith, Dr. J. R. Cook, Walton Miller, Harvey Shain, Albert Crowl, Joseph Lehman, J. L. Watson, F. E. Nichols, L. G. Race, J. E. Powell, A. B. Fleming, A. Howard Fleming, C. E. Hutson and J. H. Leonard.

At Fairmont the visitors were shown through the court house first, and while in the court room a number of them, as well as several Fairmont men of prominence, made speeches in which each felicitated the others in the happiness of interurban connection, showing recognition of the benefits which will be derived.

Then the visitors were taken to the Manly hotel, where for almost an hour they were shown the spirit of Fairmont's hospitality and where Clarksburg and Fairmont men were on a footing of friendship and where they congratulated each other over the practical completion of the line which makes them so close together.

Former Governor A. B. Fleming fitted the position of toastmaster and after saying something himself which was appropriate to the occasion called on a number of persons to express the feeling which predominated. Former Senator Stuart F. Reed was asked to address the audience which he did in his own fashion, making a good impression. He, of course, acknowledged his appreciation of having an opportunity to speak, and said a number of things which made his happy little impromptu speech. He said that next to the city in which he lived was the city of Fairmont for it was there that he went to school in early life, having attended the Normal, and has never yet been inclined to forget the hospitable conditions which surrounded him in that city. He said Fairmont today is not by any means what it was some years ago when he was a student, and indicated the contrasts in a very pretty style. In behalf of the Clarksburgers present he expressed a feeling of gratitude for the entertainment shown them, and congratulated that city on being the head of navigation of the great Mississippi. He said he as well as the other visitors had approached the city of Fairmont through a cloud of smoke and that they would go back with the same pall enveloping them but would return in the light of realization that the valley was lighted wholly by indications of its prosperity.

Mr. T. W. Fleming was called on to say something and while he took up but little time he said much which was in a happy vein and made all present feel that they had much to be thankful for.

B. Brown Stout also made a speech, and his remarks elicited applause from the crowd present. He recalled the time when he went to Fairmont from Clarksburg on an old black mare that had only one eye, and when many a time he passed the Fleming home he saw on the front porch the man who later became governor of the State.

Several others spoke but did not take up much time.

Refreshments were served and after the conclusion of the happy visit

to the hotel many of the visitors were shown through the new Masonic building in which the postoffice is located.

At the Waldo L. G. Race acted as toastmaster in a very clever manner. It was fitting he should have been chosen for that part of the function as he belongs to the two cities.

Impromptu speeches were made by Charles M. Hart, M. G. Sperry, S. C. Denham, F. C. Gaylor, Oliver P. Boughner, George L. Duncan, S. F. Reed, S. S. Paris, W. B. Osborn, J. G. Shaw and others of the Clarksburg party, all felicitating the Fairmont visitors and brilliantly describing their gratification over the union of the twin cities of West Virginia, and were responded to by Dr. J. R. Cook, Lee L. Malone and others on the part of the visitors.

Host Gaxley received a full share of congratulations on the generous hospitality of the Waldo and all in all Clarksburg even out stripped Fairmont in entertaining out guests in the most welcome way.

'BUNK' BREAKS INTO HIGH FINANCE

Dr. Raymond's Bull Dog Causes Panic at Grand, By Eating Box Office Statement.

"Bunk" caused a temporary and small-sized panic in the box office of the Grand opera house last night. "Bunk" was entirely innocent of any attempt at disturbing the peace but his misguided attempts to break into high finance were responsible.

"Bunk" is the valuable bull dog of Dr. Luther Raymond, and he is very handsome as far as bull dogs go. Being fond of the theatre and the society of actors, "Bunk" visited the opera house last night. He was warmly received by Treasurer Shields and accommodated with a warm corner in the box office. As he was busy counting the receipts and making out the statement for the evening Mr. Shields excused himself to "Bunk" and promptly forgot all about him. After the accounts were all arranged and the written statement made out, Mr. Shields left lying on the desk and went out to take a look at the performance of "The Christian."

As it developed later a gust of wind from an opening door must have blown the box office statement to the floor. It alighted right at "Bunk's" nose. "Bunk" sniffed it, gazed toward the ceiling, then did quite a good deal of thinking for a bull dog. "Here," said "Bunk," "is where I but into the high finance game." As "Bunk's" ideas of realization led to assimilation, he promptly put them into effect and swallowed the statement of the receipts of the show.

This ended the first act of the tragedy. The sequel came when Manager Himmelein and Treasurer Shields started to settle up. As we know the statement was gone, Mr. Shields having worked in the theatre so long was superstitious and murmured something about ghosts. Manager Himmelein said he was the only ghost or goat with his troupe. Suddenly a sigh came from the forgotten "Bunk." It was a fat, bank president, bloated bondholder sort of sigh. Light broke upon Mr. Shields. Hastily he looked "Bunk" over. Upon his lower lip was a fatal, tell tale scrap of blue paper, that compared identically with that upon which the box office statement was written.

The secret was out. "Bunk" had become a magistrate and like all others who do had laid in store a lot of trouble for himself. Dr. Raymond said when he got "Bunk" home he would produce the statement by certain methods known to doctors.

If "Bunk" visits the box office again Manager Himmelein and Treasurer Shields will enact the role of trust busters with great pleasure, to the sorrow of "Bunk."

TRACTION EMPLOYEES

Handsomely Remember Their Superintendent With Beautiful Present.

Superintendent D. D. Leonard ways did stand high in the esteem of the local street car conductors and motormen and they were delighted when he became the second time their superintendent. As a testimonial of this delight and their esteem of him they gave him a very handsome Christmas present—a beautiful silver tea set, which prizes very highly.